Monthly SWG Chairs Telecon
14:00-15:00 UTC 11/10/2016

SKAO Science Team (RB, JW, AB, EK), SKA-JP Visiting Scientist
(Hiroyuki Nakanishi), Rosella Cassano, Anne Mao, Zsolt Paragi, Erwin
de Block, Andrea Possenti, Mario Santos

RB - welcome to all

1) SKAO IGO Meeting 4 Outcomes

IGO #4 meeting in last week of Sep. Better than anticipated and now
almost have agreement on the final text of the treaty text. A fifth
meeting is probably not needed anymore so hopefully a ministerial
signing in late 2016/early 2017.

2) SKA Eng Meeting 2016 Stellenbosch

Engineering meeting last week. RB and AB were in
attendance. Everyone is very much aligned and focused towards
CDR. Divergence between groups, which had been an issue in the past,
is not an issue any more.

3) SKA Web page issues

Science web pages - some content went missing when Jimi Green's
user a/c was removed. Recovery is now essentially complete. If
anyone notices problems, then please let us know.

4) Custom Experiments Policy

Custom Experiment Policy - circulated yesterday. A rough draft,
sent to SWG chairs. Evan also circulated to the ECP originators of
those that drove the CE policy

MS: what are the reference documents?

RB: the ECPs driving the need for the CE

ZP: VLBI is not a custom experiment right?

RB: right for MID. On LOW it is not

AB: Is ECP 150007 - gridded visibilities - within scope or a CE?
Originators told "approved as a custom experiment". Clarification
needed.

RB: I think it's the case that SDP can do gridded visibilities
already. Let's clarify offline.

RB: CE policy gives info. on where and how one can interface with
the
telescopes and what limitations are (power, rack space).

5) Relevant Engineering Change Proposals (Band 5, Low Config)

ECPs VLBI on LOW — meeting on Friday. ZP will join. Also EK, JW and
JPMacquart.

VLBI beams on MID — ZP wants to know what to do with an ECP to
change
this

Band 5 Splitting — RB: still being debated. Another complicatiing
factor is that the ultra-wideband team will put in an ECP to change
Band 5 to be 4.8-24 GHz.

ZP: What happened with Band 1?

RB: It's a 3:1 system (350 — 1050 MHz). For Band 5 it would be fully
cryogenically cooled and very small so quite different. It will take
hard evidence to support an assessment of that. Hopefully will
happen
quickly as this is delaying progress. DSH consortium will do CDR for
Bands 1 and 2 first, with Band 5 a few months later. Needed so that
uncertainty about Band 5 doesn't hold things back.

LOW TT has a resolution team (RT 17) to look at adjusting the
existing
configuration. Summary is better instantaneous uv coverage, but at
increased cost due to the need for extra trenching and cabling. For
tracked coverage they are essentially the same.

RC: what is the deadline for the RT 17 report?

JW: 20th October

RB: will circulate it broadly

6) Upcoming Meetings: Goa2016, EWASS2017, IAU2018

Goa

JW: posted the detailed programme online. Please have a look. Trying
to chase down those who have registered but haven't paid. Still a
few
not tracked down yet. Given everybody until the 21st to confirm re:
poster marathon.

JW: Antonio Chrysostomou will give an update on Science Regional
Centres during the meeting

MS: can you video into the KSP breakout sessions?

JW: we have paid for the best wifi that is there but we can't make
any
guarantees. From past experience even at the institute at Pune the
connexion might be insufficient. Audio only might work.

EWASS 2017

RB: Lots of demand for the special sessions. They asked about the possibility of consolidating our SKA session with ATHENA and/or CTA, as they are all concerning synergies.

ZP: this could be a symposium, e.g. 2 days. if we do this instead of 3
special sessions. Have you spoken with the ASTERICS people yet?

RB: Not yet. I will.

AP: If we will still have time to expand on synergies with other telescopes (not just CTA and Athena) then it seems reasonable.

IAU 2018

RB: no obvious consolidation options with this so we will just wait to
see how that works out.

7) AOB

None.